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24 June 1957

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DD/I

SUBJECT: Dissemination of National Intelligence Estimates

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1. The attached memorandum from Howard Furnas concurs in S-DMICC's proposal. However, as you will note, their assent appears to be a qualified one, which creates a problem in drafting a formal reply to S-DMICC.
2. I don't know whether State now concurs only on the assumption that the reply to S-DMICC will include a statement of their "understanding." If so, there appear to be two alternatives: (a) advise S-DMICC that the IAC concurs, but that State's concurrence is based on "the following understanding. . . ."; or (b) draft a reply giving State's qualified acceptance as the IAC view (after polling IAC members again). The trouble with (a) is that it would be an equivocal reply; an additional difficulty with (b) is that the Director or another member might not agree as to the necessity of such a qualified reply and we might have to thresh out the matter at an IAC meeting--which you wished originally to avoid.
3. However, if State desires only to inform IAC members of their "understanding" for purposes of the record, and does not consider it essential to include that "understanding" in the formal reply of the IAC, we may avoid the procedural problems indicated above. We could advise S-DMICC that the IAC concurred in its proposal and rely on State to make its pitch to S-DMICC informally through the State member.
4. Since you have personally discussed this matter with Howard Furnas, I wasn't certain whether you had some understanding with him on how it was to be handled. Consequently, I did not want

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to attempt to unravel it by contacting him directly until I had checked with you.

5. My recommendation is that you obtain Furnas' agreement that we: (a) forward a reply to S-DMICC stating simply that the IAC concurs in the substance of their proposal of 23 April, without endorsing any specific procedure for marking or stamping documents (see Attachment A); (b) circulate State's memo to the IAC members with a covering memorandum saying that State agrees to join the other agencies in concurring without any qualification, but wished their "understanding," derived from independent consultations with S-DMICC members, passed on to the IAC members for information (Attachment B).

6. I have discussed this matter informally with Jack Oliver and he has a question about the factual accuracy of para. 1 of State's memorandum which you may also wish to raise with Howard Furnas.

JOHN HEIRES

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